

producing energy from the energy source:

creating a reverse thermal gradient, wherein a temperature of the skin surface is less than a temperature of the collagen containing tissue; and

delivering a sufficient amount of energy through the skin surface to contract at least a portion of the collagen containing tissue [with controlled cell necrosis in the skin surface] to tighten the loose skin surface.

- 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivering [a sufficient amount of] energy [is delivered] includes delivering a sufficient amount of energy through the loose skin surface without creating a substantial cell necrosis in the loose skin surface.
- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivering energy includes delivering RF energy from the energy source that is an RF energy source.
- (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein positioning the energy delivery surface includes positioning an energy delivery surface of an RF electrode [the energy source includes an RF electrode coupled to the RF energy source, the RF electrode including an RF energy delivery surface positionable] on the loose skin surface.

(Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising: [providing] applying electrolytic media to the loose skin surface from a source of electrolytic media coupled to the RF electrode.

(Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein applying electrolytic media includes applying [the electrolytic média is] an electrolytic solution to the loose skin surface.

(Amended) The method of claim 10, wherein applying electrolytic media includes applying [the electrolytic media is] an electrolytic gel to the loose skin surface.

(Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivery energy includes delivering a sufficient amount of [the energy source is a] microwave [source] energy to tighten the loose skin surface.

(Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivery energy includes delivering a sufficient

2

Attorney Docket No. 16904-727
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amount of [the energy source is a] ultrasound [source] energy to tighten the loose skin surface.

10

(Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivering energy includes delivering a sufficient amount of energy [is delivered] through the skin surface to partially denature the collagen containing tissue by cleaving heat labile cross-links of collagen molecules.

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- (Amended) The method of claim 1, [further comprising:] wherein creating a reverse thermal gradient includes providing a cooling medium to cool the loose skin surface.
- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein treating a loose skin surface overlying a collagen containing tissue site includes contracting a portion of the collagen containing tissue site that is in a subdermal layer.
- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein treating a loose skin surface overlying a collagen containing tissue site includes contracting a portion of the collagen containing tissue site that is in a deep dermal layer.
 - (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein treating a loose skin surface overlying a collagen containing tissue site includes contracting a portion of the collagen containing tissue site that is in a subcutaneous dermal layer.
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- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein treating a loose skin surface overlying a collagen containing tissue site includes contracting a portion of the collagen containing tissue site that is [in] facial and muscle tissue.
- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivery energy includes delivering sufficient amount of energy such that the average temperature of the collagen containing tissue does not exceed 80 degrees C.
- (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein delivery energy includes delivering sufficient amount of energy such that the average temperature of the collagen containing tissue does not exceed 75

3

Attorney Docket No. 16904-727
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